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E.O. 12356: DECL: OADR TAGS: PREL, NS, NL

SUBJECT: DUTCH AMBASSADOR ON SITUATION IN SURINAME

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

- 2. NETHERLANDS AMBASSADOR VAN HOUTEN BELIEVES THAT SURINAMESE GENOCIDAL ATROCITIES AGAINST BUSH NEGROES FUN EASTERN SURINAME ARE HAVING A DISTRUBING EFFECT IN PARAMARIBO, BOTH WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT AND AMONG THE PUBLIC, AND ACCOUNT FOR SOME OF THE CURRENT JITTERINESS AS WELL AS FOR RUMORS OF A CRACKDOWN IN THE FORM OF ARRESTS OF DISIDENTS. (SEPTEL).
- 3. AS ANNOUNCED BEFOREHAND BY FOREIGN MINISTER VAN DEN BROEK. VAN HOUTEN HAS RECEIVED INSTRUCTIONS TO EXPRESS GON'S GREAT CONCERN AT THE REPORTS OF INDISCRIMINATE KILLINGS BY THE ARMY. IN A MEETING WITH THE PRIME MINISTER TO CARRY OUT HIS INSTRUCTIONS VAN HOUTEN WAS REFERRED TO FOREIGN MINISTER HERRENBERG. WHO FIRST SCHEDULE AND THEN CANCELLED AN APPOINTMENT. RADHAKISHUN SHARED WITH VAN HOUTEN HIS OWN SENSE OF INSECURITY AND CONCERN AT THE TREND OF EVENTS INDICATED BY THE ACTIONS AGAINST THE BUSH NEGROES. EITHER RADHAKISHUN DR ANOTHER DUTCH SOURCE CLAIMED THAT HERRENBERG HAD SAID THAT SURINAME WOULD HAVE A "RED CHRISTMAS". TRUE OR NOT, SUCH REPORTS CIRCULATE QUICKLY, VAN HOUTEN NOTED.
- 4. VAN HOUTEN SAID THAT HIS FOREIGN MINISTER HAD APPARENTLY SAID SOMETHING IN PUBLIC ABOUT AN EVACUATION OF DUTCH NATIONALS FROM SURINAME, AND THAT HAS GENERATED A NEW WAVE OF INQUIRIES FROM ANROOUS SURINAMESE HAVING OR CLAIMING DUTCH NATIONALITY. HE ESTIMATES AT 6,000 THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE HE WOULD HAVE TO LOOK AFTER IN AN EMERGENCY. BARBOUR END OF MESSAGE CONFIDENTIAL

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